The Story of the Red Shield Inn

The Army Museum on JBLM is fortunate to occupy one of a few existing historic buildings that date back to the establishment of Camp Lewis, during the WWI era. It is the only known structure which remains from the recreational area known as Greene Park.

In 1918, the Salvation Army hired the Pratt and Watson Construction Company of Spokane to build the 150-room Western Stick style Red Shield Inn at a cost of $107,000 to accommodate the needs of Soldiers and their families serving at Camp Lewis during WWI.

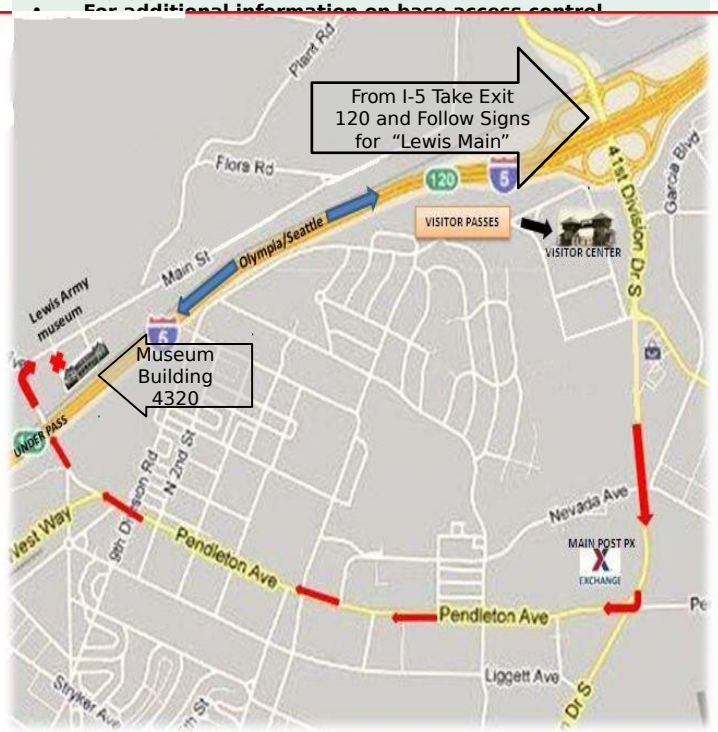
After the draw-down of WWI, the Salvation Army sold the Inn to the U.S. Army for only $1 on July 1, 1921. It became known as the Camp Lewis Apartments, then shortly afterward, the Camp Lewis Inn. When the Camp became a Fort in 1927, it was renamed the Fort Lewis Inn and continued to serve the needs of the Fort Lewis community for years to come.

In 1972, the Fort Lewis Inn was saved to become home to the Fort Lewis Military Museum, when the new Fort Lewis Lodge was built near the Lewis Main Headquarters. In 1979, the building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places, therefore preserving a historically significant post landmark. With the merger of Joint Base Lewis-McChord in 2010, the Museum continues to serve in its role as an Army Museum.

The Fort Lewis Military Museum is the only certified U.S. Army Museum on the West Coast. It is an irreplaceable link to the base's proud and historic past and will continue to preserve the heritage of Fort Lewis and the Army in the Pacific

Directions to Visit the Lewis Army Museum and Instructions for Obtaining a Base Pass to Visit the Museum for Guests without Military Credentials and/or Unregistered Vehicles:

- **From Interstate 5, take Exit 120**
- **Follow signs toward "Lewis Main"**
- **Off ramp merges onto 41st Division Drive**
- **Turn right into Visitor Center parking lot prior to Main Gate**
- **Bring Photo ID, Vehicle Registration and Proof of Insurance into Visitor's Center**
- **Take a number at Visitor Center and wait your turn (wait can be up to an hour, so please plan accordingly)**
- **When called, state your purpose to visit the museum and show your photo ID, vehicle registration and proof of insurance in order to obtain a Base Pass**
- **After you obtain your Base Pass, from the Visitor Center parking lot, turn right onto 41st Division Drive, stop at Main Gate and show base pass and ID to the gate guard**
- **All passengers over the age of 16 in the vehicle must also have photo ID to show to the guard at the time of entry**
- **After progressing through the Main Gate, drive .7 miles on 41st Division Drive**
- **Turn right on Pendleton Avenue**
- **Follow Pendleton Avenue until it passes under I-5.**
- **After the underpass, road makes curve to right and its name changes to Main Street - the Museum will be on your right**
- **Park in the Museum's paved parking area and follow signage to the main entrance**
- **Enjoy your visit!!**
- **For additional information on base access control**



Fort Lewis Military Museum
Building #4320
P.O. Box 331001
Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA 98433

The Fort Lewis Military

Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington

FREE ADMISSION

Hours: Wednesday – Saturday 11 am to 4pm
Closed Federal Holidays

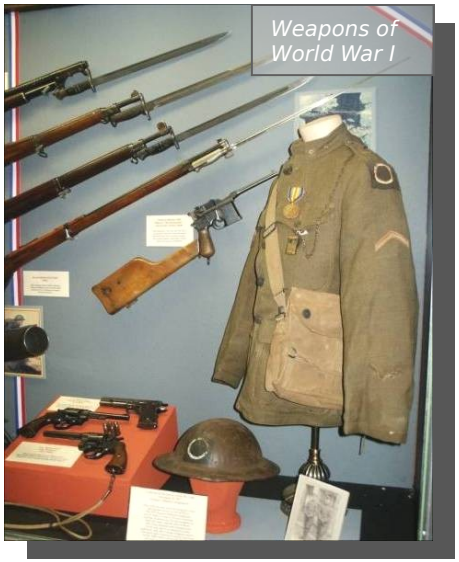
Cannon Shop Gift Store: (253) 967-4348
www.fortlewismuseum.com/flm/

Museum Information:
(253) 967-7206

Public Website:
http://www.lewis-mcchord.army.mil/dptms/museum/museum

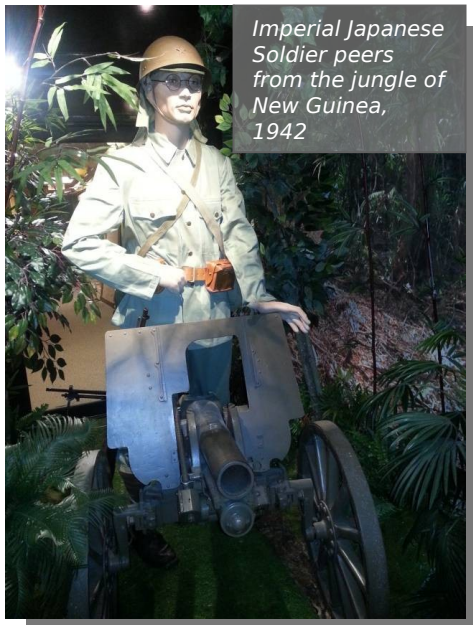
Museum Lobby

Trench Warfare, Western Front, World War I, 1918



Weapons of World War I

The Fort Lewis Military Museum collects, preserves, displays and interprets artifacts pertinent to the history of Camp Lewis, Fort Lewis, and Army component of Joint Base Lewis-McChord, the units which have served here and the role of the U.S. Army in the exploration, defense and development of the Pacific Northwest. The Museum features an outstanding collection of uniforms, weapons, military art and memorabilia associated with the United States Army.



Imperial Japanese Soldier peers from the jungle of New Guinea, 1942

Galleries each focus on a specific theme: Soldiers of the Northwest; The Fort Lewis Gallery; Army Family Gallery; Medical Gallery; Gallery of Valor; I Corps Gallery; Art Gallery; and rotating exhibits.

The Vehicle Park: features displays of Army Tanks, Artillery, Missiles, Jeeps, Trucks, and associated equipment.

A Drill Sergeant inspects Trainees in the 1960s

Bust of General Henry Greene, First Camp Commander, 1917

Vehicle Park with World War II M4A1 Sherman Tank in Foreground

Display on Vietnam Conflict in the Gallery of Valor